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Abstract of the Disclosure

To obtain a topology of the available spare links in a telecommunications network provisioned with a distributed restoration algorithm, messages containing

5 the appropriate identifications of the nodes and the ports of the nodes to which spare links are connected are exchanged continuously along the spare links of the network. When a failure is detected, the origin node can retrieve the various messages, and from data

10 contained therein, to construct a topology of the available spare links of the network which can then be used for finding an alternate route for rerouting the traffic disrupted by the failure.